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The Essantials of Tajweed Rules

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The Essentials of Tajweed Rules (Hafs)

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بِسْمِ ٱللَّهِ ٱلرَّحْمَٰنِ ٱلرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

Foreword

We begin this book in the name of Allah. All praise is due to Allah. May peace and blessings be upon our beloved Prophet (pbuh) and upon his family, his companions, and all Muslims who remain steadfast on his path until the Day of Resurrection.

This book is a compilation of the most common Tajweed rules applied to Hafs reading. We have chosen a pocket-sized format for practical reasons so that the book can be easily carried around.

This summary of Tajweed rules is not sufficient to master the application of Tajweed rules. It is essential to have a teacher to whom the learner can recite in order to be corrected, and to read the Quran regularly to avoid forgetting, because knowing the rules is one thing and applying them scrupulously is another. For this reason, in the

absence of a teacher, we recommend the "Otloha sah" app (or similar), which is free but usually provides corrections in Arabic.

Finally, this manual is inspired by the books (The Luminous Rules) and mainly *At-Tajwid Al-Mousawwar (التجويد المصور)* by Dr. Ayman Swaid (د. أيمن سويد) (r.h) (translated into several languages).

We recommend this book, which applies to the Hafs reading method for the practical application of the rules (book with QR code). In addition, videos of the Doctor are available on YouTube:

- Practicing Letters | Sheikh Ayman Suwaid – YouTube
- د. أيمن سويد | شرح كتاب التجويد المصور Dr. Ayman Swaid – YouTube

We ask Allah to facilitate this project undertaken to seek His face and His approval and to make the rules of Tajweed more accessible to English speakers in an easily transportable format. We ask Allah to accept and bless our work.

Summary

Vocabulary

- Tajweed : embellishment
- Halq : throat
- Noun Sâkinah : Noun with Soukoun «نْ»
- Tanwîn : vowel doubling
- Chadda = accentuation
- Ikhfaa : concealment
- Iz-haar : distinct pronunciation without alteration
- Ghounna : nasalization
- Id-ghaam : assimilation
- Qalqala : resonnance
- Tafkhîm : emphasis (sound accentuation)
- Tarqîq : thinning
- Iqlaab : substitution
- Mounfasil : detached
- Mouttasil : joint
- Waqf : Stopping
- Nasalization: pronounce with a nasal sound
- One beat: the duration of pronunciation of a letter vocalized with a short vowel (Fatha, Kasra ou Ḏamma).
- Hamzatoul waṣl : unstable hamzah

Chapter 1 : The arabic alphabet

The Arabic alphabet consists of 28 letters:

ا ب ت ث ج ح خ د ذ ر ز س ش ص ض ط ظ ع غ ف ق ك ل م ن ه و ي

Alif bâ tâ ṯâ ğîm ḥâ ẖâ dâl ḏâl râ zây sîn šîn ṣâd ḍâd ṭâ ẓâ ‘ayn ġayn fâ qâf kâf lâm mîm noûn hâ wâw yâ

Chapter 2 : Lunar and solar letters

Arabic letters are divided into two groups:

- The lunar letters, 14 in number : « ا ب ج ح خ ع غ ف ق ك م ن ه و ي»

Before these letters, if you have «ال», you only read the «ل», the «ا» will not be read such as «وَالفَجْرِ».

- The solar letters, 14 in number: « ت ث د ذ ر ز س ش ص ض ط ظ ل»

Before these letters, if there is «ال», in this case, the «ال» will not be read. We make a liaison with the preceding letter, such as «وَالشَّمْسِ».

Chapter 3 : Emphatic letters

The letters that are always emphatic are « خ ص ض غ ط ق ظ» and are summarized in «خُصَّ ضَغْطٍ قِظْ». These letters are pronounced with an amplification of the sound.

There are letters that are sometimes emphatic: « ا ل ر».

The rest of the letters are still thinned out.

Chapter 4 : The short vowels

The Fatha «َ», the Kasra «ِ», the Ḏamma «ُ» are the vowels in Arabic.

The Ḏamma «ُ» must be pronounced with a sharp voice, ensuring that the sound of the letter does not ring or whistle. The lips form a circle when pronouncing it. E.g. : «قُتِلَ»

Chapter 5 : The Soukoun

The letter with Soukoun «ْ» is called Harf Sâkinah. The letter with Soukoun is read by combining it with the preceding letter.

E.g. :«لَيْسَ» ; «نُشِرَتْ» ; «يَعْلَمُ»

When two Soukouns follow each other in two words, the first one changes to a Kasra.

E.g. «أَمْ ٱرْتَابُوا» becomes «أَمِ ٱرْتَابُوا».

However, this rule can be changed:

- To Fatha : «مِنْ ٱللَّهِ» becomes «مِنَ ٱللَّهِ»
- To Ḏamma : «عَلَيْكُمْ ٱلْقِتَالُ» becomes «عَلَيْكُمُ ٱلْقِتَالُ»
- As a short vowel corresponding to the letter on which it is written :
  - «دَعَوْا ٱللَّهَ» becomes «دَعَوُا ٱللَّهَ»
  - «يَٰصَٰحِبَىْ ٱلسِّجْنِ» becomes «يَٰصَٰحِبَيِ ٱلسِّجْنِ»

Chapter 6 : Double vowels (Tanwîn)

Doubling of vowels : two Fatha «ـً», two Kasra «ـٍ» and two Ḏamma «ـٌ» are called double vowels or Tanwîn. They are pronounced by adding the « /n/ » sound when reading, this is equivalent to having a Noun Sâkinah at the end of the word. E.g. : «رَسُولٌ» ; «غَاسِقٍ» ; «عَادًا»

Chapter 7 : The accentuation (Chadda)

The letter with a Chadda «ـّ» is read twice. First, it is blended with the preceding letter, and then it is read normally on its own.

E.g. : «أَنَّ = أَنْ نَ»

The pause on the two letters with chadda «ن» and «م» is made with a fairly long nasalization to mark the accentuation of these letters.

E.g. «وَلَٰكِنَّ» ; «جَآنٌّ» ; «فِى ٱلْيَمِّ»

Chapter 8 : The rules of the letter Alif

The letter Alif «ا» will depend on the letter that precedes it in terms of the amplification and thinning of the sound:

- Alif is emphatic if preceded by an emphatic letter : «خَالِدِينَ» ; «مِنَ ٱللَّهِ» ; «يُرَاءُونَ»
- Alif is thinned if preceded by a thinned letter: «ٱلنَّاسِ» ; «إِيَّاكَ» ; «بِسْمِ ٱللَّهِ»

Chapter 9 : Long vowels

There are three types of Madd letters or long vowels:

- The Alif «ا» in front of the Fatha. E.g. : «حَا»
- The Ya «ي» in front of the Kasra. E.g. : «حِي»
- The Waw «و» in front of the Ḏamma. E.g. : «نُو»

The natural prolongation of a long vowel should not exceed two beats, one beat being the duration of pronunciation of a letter vocalized with a short vowel (Fatha, Kasra ou Ḏamma).

Chapter 10 : Elongation rules (Madd)

If after the Madd or long vowel there is Hamza in the same word (Mouttasil), E.g. : « جَــآءَ »

Or Hamza in the following word (Mounfasil), E.g. : «مَــآ أَنزَلَ». Their duration is 4 to 5 beats.

If after the Madd, there is a letter with Chadda or Soukoun, (Madd Lâzim), E.g. : «يَتَمَــآسَّا». It's duration is 6 beats.

Chapter 11 : The Letters of Lîn

There are two types of Lîn letters:

- The unvoiced waw «و» preceded by a Fatha. E.g. «صَوْمُ»
- The unvocalized ya «ي» preceded by a Fatha. E.g. «صَيْفُ»

These letters should be pronounced quickly in a softvoice

Chapter 12 : Distinct pronunciation (Izhâr)

There are six letters in Izhâr «خ غ ح ع ه ء». If these letters appear after Tanwîn or Noun Sâkinah, the Noun will be read without nasalization. E.g. : «طَيْرًا اَبَابِيلَ» ; «نَارٌحَامِيَةٌ» ; «فَمَنْ عُفِيَ».

Chapter 13 : Concealment (Ikhfâ)

There are 15 letters in Ikhfâ : « ب ت ث ج د ذ ز س ش ص ض ط ظ ف ق ك»

If after Tanwîn or Noun Sâkinah there is one of these letters, the Noun will be read in a concealed manner and with nasalization. E.g. : «اَنزَلْنَا» ; «أُنثَىٰ» ; «اَنتَ».

The concealment method of Noun Sâkinah is :

- 1. Anticipation the next letter by preparing the vocal organs at their point of articulation.
- 2. Pronunciation of the sound simultaneously with Ghounna originating from the nasal cavity.

- 3. Pronunciation of a small sound coming from the mouth caused by incomplete closure of the articulation point of the letter «ن» (nasal part), except with the letters«ق» and «ك» which have a completely closed articulation point.

Chapter 14 : Assimilation (Idghâm)

There are six letters of Idghâm : « و ل م ر ي ن» combined in the word «يَرْمَلُونَ».

If after Tanwîn or Noun Sâkinah there is «ل» or «ر», in this case the Noun should not be read with nasalization. E.g. : «مِن رَّبِّكَ» ; «يَكُن لَّهُ».

If after Tanwîn or Noun Sâkinah there are the letters «ي م و ن», in this case the Noun should be read with nasalization. E.g. : «مِن نِّعْمَةٍ» ; «عَن مَّنْ» ; «مَن وُّعِدَ» ; «مَن يَّقُولُ».

Except for the following exceptions (no assimilation) : «قِنْوَانٌ» ; «صِنْوانٌ» ; «ٱلدُّنْيَا» ; «بُنْيَانٌ».

Other types of assimilation:

- Complete assimilation
  - «وَقَد دَّخَلُوا» is read «وَقَدَّخَلُوا»
  - «يُدْرِككُّمُ» is read «يُدْرِكُّمُ»
  - «بَل لَّاتُكْرِمُونَ» is read «بَلَّاتُكْرِمُونَ»
  - «يُكْرِههُّنَّ» is read «يُكْرِهُّنَّ»
  - «إِذ ظَّلَمْتُمْ» is read «إِظَّلَمْتُمْ»
  - «قَد تَّبَيَّنَ» is read «قَتَّبَيَّنَ»
  - «أَثْقَلَت دَّعَوَا» is read «أَثْقَلَدَّعَوَا»
  - «فَئَامَنَت طَّائِفَةٌ» is read «فَئَامَنَطَّائِفَةٌ»
  - «قُل رَّبِّ» is read «قُرَّبِّ»
  - «يَلْهَث ذَّالِكَ» is read «يَلْهَذَّالِكَ»
  - «ٱرْكَب مَّعَنَا» is read «ٱرْكَمَّعَنَا»
  - «أَلَمْ نَخْلُقكُّمْ» is read «أَلَمْ نَخْلُكُّمْ»

- Partial assimilation (ط et ت)
  - The tongue sticks to the articulation point of the letter «ط» without applying the Qalqala, then moves on to the vocalized letter «ت» : «أَحَطتُ» ; «بَسَطتَ» ; «فَرَّطتُمْ» ; «فَرَّطتُ».

Chapter 15 : Substitution (Iqlâb)

If after Tanwîn or Noun Sâkinah there is a letter «ب», then the Noun will be transformed into «م» and will be read with nasalization and dissimulation. The lips must be bonded without opening or pressing. E.g. : « مِن بَعْدِ ».

Chapter 16 : Rules of Mîm Sâkinah

- Izhâr chafawi : If after Mîm Sâkinah «مْ» there is a letter other than «ب» and «م» and if there is specifically «و» or «ف» then «م» must be read distinctly. E.g. : «هُمْ فِيهَا».

- Ikhfâ chafawi : If after Mîm Sâkinah «مْ» there is «ب» then there will be concealment with nasalization. The lips must be bonded without opening or pressing. E.g. : «إِنَّ رَبَّهُم بِهِمْ».

- Idghâm chafawi : If after Mîm Sâkinah «مْ» there is «م» then there will be assimilation with nasalization. E.g. : «اِلَيْكُمْ مُّرْسَلُونَ».

Chapter 17 : Resonnance (Qalqala)

There are five letters in Qalqala «ق ط ب ج د» which together form the word «قُطْبُ جَدْ».

When there is a Soukoun on these letters, in this case they will be read with resonance. Ex : «يَجْعَلْ»

There are two types of Qalqala :

- Major Qalqala : when you pause on a Qalqala letter : «ٱلْفَلَقْ» ; «كَسَبْ» ; «أَحَدْ»
- Minor Qalqala : when the letter Qalqala is found within a word or within a reading : «يَقْضِى» ; «يُطْعِمُ» ; «لِيُنفِقْ ذُو»

Chapter 18 : Rules for the letter Râ

There are a total of three :

- Emphatic : in 8 cases

- 1. Râ takes a Fatha : «رَمَضَانَ»
- 2. Râ is Sâkinah and preceded by Fatha : «أَرْسَلْنَا»
- 3. Râ is Sâkinah, preceded by a Sâkinah letter other than «ي» he latter preceded by Fatha : «وَالْعَصْرْ»
- 4. Râ take a Ḏamma : «كَفَرُواْ»
- 5. Râ is Sâkinah and preceded by Ḏamma : «الْقُرْءَانَ»
- 6. Râ is Sâkinah, preceded by a letter Sâkinah the latter preceded by Ḏamma : «خُسْرْ»
- 7. Râ is Sakinah, preceded by a non-original kasra that is pronounced or implied : «ٱرْجِعُواْ» ; «ٱلَّذِى ٱرْتَضَىٰ لَهُمْ»
- 8. Râ is Sâkinah, preceded by a Kasra and followed by an emphatic letter. «خ ص ض غ ط ق ظ» without Kasra in the same word: «فِرْقَةٍ» ; «وَإِرْصَادًا» ; «قِرْطَاسٍ»

Thinned : in 4 cases

- 1. Râ take a Kasra : «كَرِيمٌ»

- ❖ 2. Râ is Sâkinah, preceded by a Kasra and followed by a non-emphatic letter : «فِرْعَوْنَ»
- ❖ 3. Râ is Sâkinah, preceded by a non-emphatic Sâkinah letter, which is preceded by Kasra: «قَدِيرْ» ; «حِجْرْ»
  - ❖ 4. Râ is Sâkinah, preceded by the letter Lîn «ي» : «لَاضَيْرْ» ; «خَيْرْ»

Emphatic or thinned: in 2 cases

- ❖ 1. Râ is preceded by a Kasra and followed by an emphatic letter with Kasra.: «فِرْقٍ كَٱلطَّوْدِ»
  - ❖ 2. Râ is Sâkinah, preceded by an emphatic letter Sâkinah, which is preceded by Kasra (when stopping): «ٱلْقِطْرِ» ; «مِصْرَ»

Chapter 19 : Reading rule of the word Allah

If the word «الله» is preceded by a Fatha or Ḏamma, then the Lâm in the word «الله» will be read emphatically. E.g. : «إِنَّ اللهَ». If there is a Kasra, the Lâm in the word «الله» will be read in a thinner manner. E.g. : «بَلِ اللهُ».

Chapter 20 : Hamzah unstable at the beginning of a verb

The unstable hamzah will be vocalized with a short vowel :

- Ḏamma : if the third letter of the verb has the same original short vowel. E.g. : «ٱرْكُضْ» ; «ٱدْعُ» ; «ٱجْتُثَّتْ» ; «ٱنظُرْ»

- Kasra : if the third letter of the verb has:
  - ❖ a kasra. E.g. : «ٱصْبِرْ» ; «ٱكْشِفْ»
  - ❖ a Fatha. E.g. : «ٱسْتَغْفِرْ» ; «ٱتَّقُوا»
  - ❖ a non-original Ḏamma. E.g. : «ٱبْنُوا» ; «ٱمْشُوا» ; «ٱقْضُوا» ; «ٱئْتُوا»

Chapter 21 : Hamzah unstable at the beginning of the name

The unstable hamzah will always be vocalized with the short kasra vowel at the beginning of a noun.

E.g. : «ٱسْتِكْبَارًا» ; «ٱسْتِغْفَارُ» ; «ٱبْنُ مَرْيَمَ» ; «ٱمْرَأَةٌ».

Chapter 22 : Rules of the letter Ṣâd

This particularity concerns the symbol of the letter Sin «ۜ» placed above the letter «ص» : «صۜ» :

- In the two verses below, the letter «ص» will be read as «س» :
  - ❖ Sourate al Baqarah (2:245) : «وَيَبۡصُۜطُ»
  - ❖ Sourate al-A'raf (7:69) : «بَصۜۡطَةً»

- In the verse below, the letter «ص» will be read either as «س», or as «ص» (two possibilities) :
  - ❖ Sourate At-Tour (52:37) : «ٱلۡمُصَۣيۡطِرُونَ»

- In the verse below, the letter «ص» will be read «ص» :
  - ❖ Sourate Al-Ghachiya (88:22) : «بِمُصَيۡطِرٍ»

Chapter 23 : Separate letters

Without taking into account separate letters, there are 14 letters mentioned at the beginning of the suras.: « أ، ل، م، ص، ر، ك، ح، ي، ع، ط، س، ه، ق، ن»

- The letter that does not extend: «أ»
- Letters that extend by two beats «ر ه ط ي ح»
- Letters that extend for 6 beats: «ل س ع ص ق ن م ك»
- The letter « ع» can be extended 4 or 6 beats.

They are gathered together in the suras as follows : الٓمٓ - الٓمٓصٓ - الٓر - حمٓ - الٓمٓر - كٓهيعٓصٓ - طه - طسٓمٓ - طسٓ - طسٓمٓ - يسٓ - صٓ - حمٓ عٓسٓقٓ - قٓ - نٓ

Chapter 24 : Rules for stopping (waqf)

The end of the verse is marked by this sign «۝» which is called Âya.

If the last letter of a verse ends with a Fatha, a Kasra, a Ḏamma, or a Tanwîn other than the Tanwîn of Fatha, then one must pause on a Soukoun and cut off the breath.

E.g. : «الْعٰلَمِينْ» ← الْعٰلَمِينَ» ; «مُسْتَقِيمْ» ← مُسْتَقِيمِ» ; «اللّٰهْ» ← اللّٰهُ »

If at the end of a verse we pause on a double Fatha «ً», then we must replace this Tanwîn with a 2-beat prolongation.

E.g. : «إِنشَاءَا» ← إِنشَاءً»

If at the end of a verse we stop on a Tâ Marboutah «ة», then we must replace it with a Hâ Sâkinah «هْ».
E.g. : «جَارِيَهْ» ← جَارِيَةٌ»

Chapter 25 : Stop signs

- «مـ» Stopping is mandatory
- «ج» Stopping is allowed
- «قلى» Stopping is permitted and preferred
- «صلى» Stopping is permitted, although continuing to read is preferred.
- «س» We should pause for a moment without catching our breath
- «لا» We must not stop
- «∴ … ∴» If we stop at one, we shouldn't stop at the other.